Un 34/4

40th Anniversary of the United Nations

Bulletin
Reprint

United States Department of State
Bureau of Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.

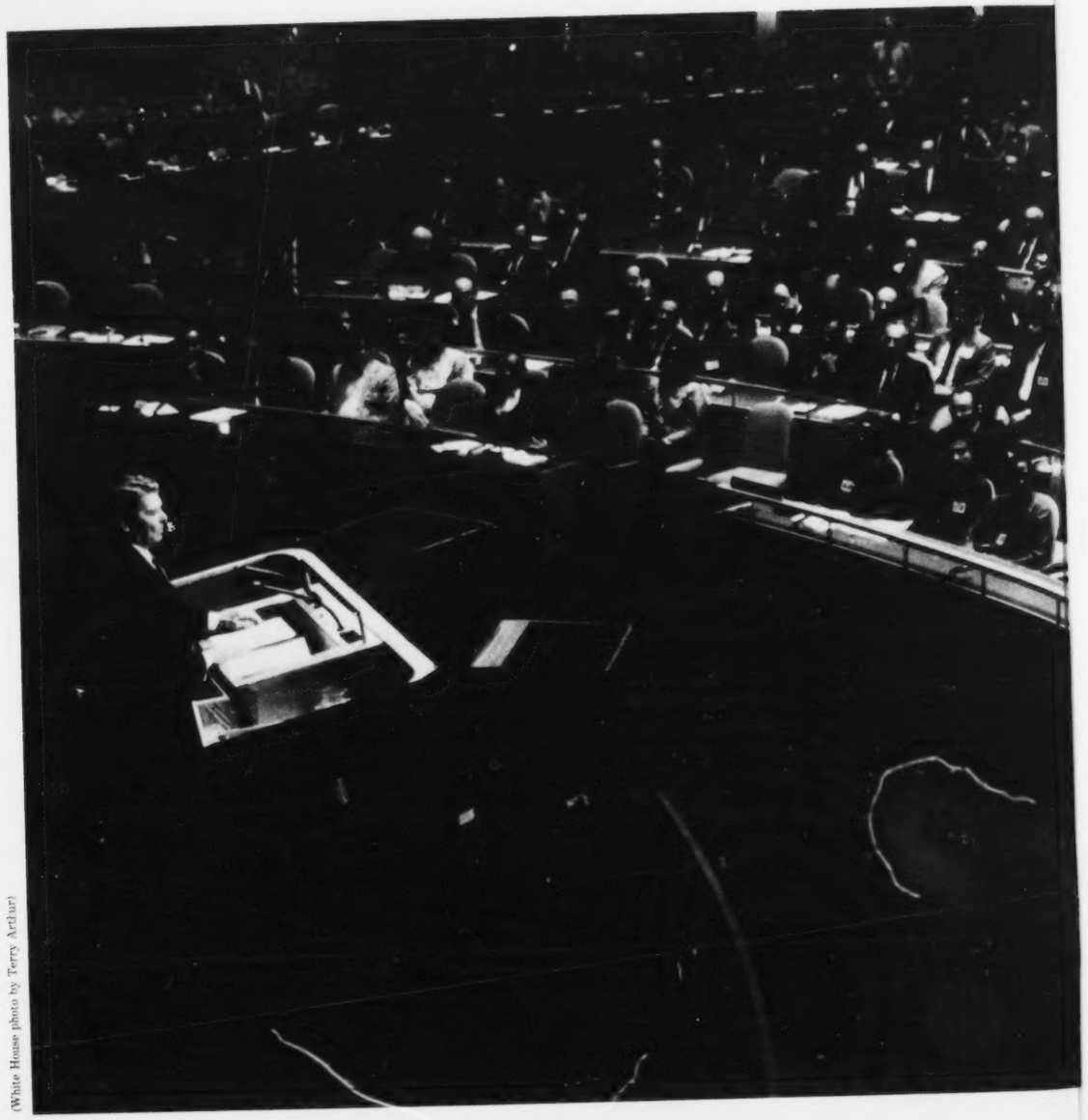
NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

MAR 21 1986

U. S. GOVT. PUBS.
DEPOSITORY 325

READEX FICHE

S1.3/a:



(White House photo by Terry Arthur)

A Foundation for Enduring Peace

by President Reagan

Address before the 40th session of the UN General Assembly in New York on October 24, 1985.[1]

Forty years ago, the world awoke daring to believe hatred's unyielding grip had finally been broken—daring to believe the torch of peace would be protected in liberty's firm grasp.

Forty years ago, the world yearned to dream again innocent dreams, to believe in ideals with innocent trust. Dreams of trust are worthy, but in these 40 years too many dreams have been shattered; too many promises have been broken; too many lives have been lost. The painful truth is that the use of violence to take, to exercise, and to preserve power remains a persistent reality in much of the world.

The vision of the UN Charter—to spare succeeding generations this scourge of war—remains real. It still stirs our souls and warms our hearts. But it also demands of us a realism that is rockhard, clear eyed, steady, and sure—a realism that understands the nations of the United Nations are not united.

I come before you this morning preoccupied with peace, with ensuring that the differences between some of us not be permitted to degenerate into open conflict. And I come offering for my own country a new commitment, a fresh start.

On this UN anniversary, we acknowledge its successes: the decisive action during the Korean war; negotiation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty; strong support for decolonization; and the laudable achievements by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Nor must we close our eyes to this organization's disappointments: its failure to deal with real security issues, the total inversion of morality in the infamous Zionism-is-racism resolution, the politicization of too many agencies, the misuse of too many resources.

The United Nations is a political institution, and politics requires compromise. We recognize that. But let us remember: from those first days one guiding star was supposed to light our path toward the UN vision of peace and progress—the star of freedom.

What kind of people will we be 40 years from today? May we answer—free people, worthy of freedom, and firm in the conviction that freedom is not the sole prerogative of a chosen few, but the universal right of all God's children. This is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights set forth in 1948. And this is the affirming flame the United States has held high to a watching world. We champion freedom not only because it is practical and beneficial but because it is morally right and just.

Free people, whose governments rest upon the consent of the governed, do not wage war on their neighbors. Free people, blessed by economic opportunity and protected by laws that

respect the dignity of the individual, are not driven toward the domination of others.

We readily acknowledge that the United States is far from perfect. Yet we have endeavored earnestly to carry out our responsibilities to the Charter these past 40 years, and we take national pride in our contributions to peace. We take pride in 40 years of helping to avert a new world war and pride in our alliances that protect and preserve us and our friends from aggression. We take pride in the Camp David agreements and our efforts for peace in the Middle East rooted in Resolutions 242 and 338; in supporting Pakistan, target of outside intimidation; in assisting El Salvador's struggle to carry forward its democratic revolution; in answering the appeal of our Caribbean friends in Grenada; in seeing Grenada's representative here today, voting the will of its own people. And we take pride in our proposals to reduce the weapons of war.

We submit this history as evidence of our sincerity of purpose. But today it is more important to speak to you about what my country proposes to do, in these closing years of the 20th century, to bring about a safer, a more peaceful, a more civilized world.

U.S.-Soviet Differences

Let us begin with candor—with words that rest on plain and simple facts. The differences between America and the Soviet Union are deep and abiding. The United States is a democratic nation. Here the people rule. We build no walls to keep them in, nor organize any system of police to keep them mute. We occupy no country. The only land abroad we occupy is beneath the graves where our heroes rest. What is called the West is a voluntary association of free nations, all of which fiercely value their independence and their sovereignty. And as deeply as we cherish our beliefs, we do not seek to compel others to share them.

(Photo: Harry S Truman Library)

Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., chairman of the U.S. delegation to the San Francisco conference, signed the UN Charter on June 26, 1945, while President Truman (left) witnessed. Behind the Secretary and at the right of this photo are other members of the U.S. delegation who also signed the Charter—Commander Harold E. Stassen, U.S. Naval Reserve; Virginia C. Gildersleeve, Dean, Barnard College; (unidentified aide); Representative Charles A. Eaton (R-N.J.); Representative Sol Bloom (D-N.Y.); Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg (R-Mich.); and Senator Tom Connally (D-Tex.). Former Secretary of State Cordell Hull, senior adviser and member of the U.S. delegation, was convalescing in Washington, D.C., and signed the Charter at a later date. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1945 for his role in establishing the United Nations.

(USUN photo)

U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Vernon A. Walters presents the original copy of the UN Charter to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar so that it can be displayed during the 40th session of the General Assembly. The Charter is in permanent custody of the U.S. Government in fulfillment of its depositary function. It is bound in a single document and contains all five original language texts (English, French, Spanish, Russian, and Chinese).

United Nations Day, 1985

**PROCLAMATION 5372,
OCT. 1, 1985[1]**

The founders of the United Nations, meeting in San Francisco 40 years ago, set forth in the U.N. Charter the fervent hope that humanity might experience peace and international cooperation in the era after the greatest and most costly war ever experienced. The ideals expressed in the Charter were that all member states would work together to maintain international peace and security, encourage human rights, and cooperate in dealing with the economic, social, humanitarian, and technical problems that afflict our planet.

The United Nations and its family of international organizations have sought, constructively, to improve the human condition. Many people today live under better conditions because of work done in the name of these organizations. That hope for international cooperation, expressed 40 years ago, has been achieved most often in the U.N.'s technical, development, and humanitarian agencies. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and the World Food Program (WFP), for example, have made major contributions to the safety and welfare of people everywhere.

On this the United Nation's 40th Anniversary, it is appropriate that all member states reflect not only on the achievements of the organization, but also its shortcomings, its unfulfilled promise and yes, even its failures. We do so in a positive spirit, seeking constructive solutions to those problems that prevent the U.N. from realizing its full potential and fully embodying the ideals of the Charter. We believe that by facing those problems realistically and working together, many can be solved. The tasks before us are not easy. It will require both patience and dedication to the ideals of the U.N. Charter. We owe it to ourselves, however, to our children, and to all future generations to make this effort.

To the American people and their elected representatives, the United Nations plays an important role in the search for peace with justice. It provides a forum where member states can discuss and try to resolve their differences peacefully, in the spirit of the Charter. We will continue to do all we can to support that process within the U.N., within recognized regional fora, and in direct bilateral dialogue. As we encourage more responsible international behavior, we strengthen the United Nations and the prospect for achieving the goals of its Charter. But much more can and must be done. We look to all member states to support the sound principles upon which the U.N. was founded. These include respect for the rights and views of states that may find themselves in the minority, and support for recognized regional associations as provided for in the Charter, as well as the wise use of its own resources and established procedures.

The people and the government of the United States take satisfaction in the very substantial moral, political, and financial support we have given to the United Nations since its founding. We remain firmly committed to the noble ideals set forth in the Charter; they are entirely consonant with the ideals embodied in our own political institutions. The United Nations continues to stand as the symbol of the hopes of all mankind for a more peaceful and productive world. We must not disappoint those hopes.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Thursday, October 24, 1985, as United Nations Day and urge all Americans to acquaint themselves with the activities of the United Nations, its accomplishments, and the challenges it faces. I have appointed Peter H. Dailey to serve as 1985 United States Chairman for United Nations Day and welcome the role of the United Nations Association of the United States of America in working with him to celebrate this special day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and tenth.

RONALD REAGAN

[1]Text from Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents of Oct. 7, 1985. ■

When we enjoy these vast freedoms as we do, it is difficult for us to understand the restrictions of dictatorships which seek to control each institution and every facet of people's lives, the expression of their beliefs, their movements, and their contacts with the outside world. It is difficult for us to understand the ideological premise that force is an acceptable way to expand a political system.

We Americans do not accept that any government has the right to command and order the lives of its people, that any nation has a historic right to use force to export its ideology. This belief—regarding the nature of man and the limitations of government—is at the core of our deep and abiding differences with the Soviet Union, differences that put us into natural conflict—and competition—with one another.

We would welcome enthusiastically a true competition of ideas, welcome a competition of economic strength and scientific and artistic creativity, and, yes, welcome a competition for the good will of the world's people. But we cannot accommodate ourselves to the use of force and subversion to consolidate and expand the reach of totalitarianism.

When Mr. Gorbachev and I meet in Geneva next month, I look to a fresh start in the relationship of our two nations. We can and should meet in the spirit that we can deal with our differences peacefully. That is what we expect.

The only way to resolve differences is to understand them. We must have candid and complete discussions of where dangers exist and where peace is being disrupted. Make no mistake: our policy of open and vigorous competition rests on a realistic view of the world. Therefore, at Geneva, we must review the reasons for the current level of mistrust.

For example, in 1972 the international community negotiated in good faith a ban on biological and toxin weapons; in 1975 we negotiated the Helsinki accords on human rights and freedoms; and during the decade just

past, the United States and the Soviet Union negotiated several agreements on strategic weapons. And yet we feel it will be necessary at Geneva to discuss with the Soviet Union what we believe are violations of a number of the provisions in all of these agreements. Indeed, this is why it is important that we have this opportunity to air our differences through face-to-face meetings—to let frank talk substitute for anger and tension.

The United States has never sought treaties merely to paper over differences. We continue to believe that a nuclear war is one that cannot be won and must never be fought. And that is why we have sought, for nearly 10 years, still seek, and will discuss in Geneva radical, equitable, verifiable reductions in these vast arsenals of offensive nuclear weapons.

At the beginning of the latest round of the ongoing negotiations in Geneva, the Soviet Union presented a specific proposal involving numerical values. We are studying the Soviet counterproposal carefully. I believe that within their proposal there are seeds which we should nurture, and in the coming weeks we will seek to establish a genuine process of give-and-take.

The United States is also seeking to discuss with the Soviet Union in Geneva the vital relationship between offensive and defensive systems, including the possibility of moving toward a more stable and secure world in which defenses play a growing role. The ballistic missile is the most awesome, threatening, and destructive weapon in the history of man. Thus, I welcome the interest of the new Soviet leadership in the reduction of offensive strategic

Secretaries General of the United Nations

Trygve Lie (Norway)
1946–1952

Javier Perez de Cuellar (Peru)
1982–Present

Dag Hammarskjold (Sweden)
1953–1961

U Thant (Burma)
1961–1971

Kurt Waldheim (Austria)
1972–1981

forces. Ultimately, we must remove this menace—once and for all—from the face of the Earth.

Until that day, the United States seeks to escape the prison of mutual terror by research and testing that could, in time, enable us to neutralize the threat of these ballistic missiles and, ultimately, render them obsolete. How is Moscow threatened if the capitals of other nations are protected? We do not ask that the Soviet leaders—whose country has suffered so much from war—leave their people defenseless against foreign attack. Why then do they insist that we remain undefended? Who is threatened if Western research—and Soviet research that is itself well-advanced—should develop a non-nuclear system which would threaten not human beings but only ballistic missiles?

Surely, the world will sleep more secure when these missiles have been rendered useless, militarily and politically, when the sword of Damocles that has hung over our planet for too many decades is lifted by Western and Russian scientists working to shield their cities and their citizens and one day shut down space as an avenue of weapons of mass destruction.

If we are destined by history to compete, militarily, to keep the peace, then let us compete in systems that defend our societies rather than weapons which can destroy us both and much of God's creation along with us. Some 18 years ago, then-Premier Aleksei Kosygin was asked about a moratorium on the development of an antimissile defense system. The official Soviet news agency, TASS, reported he replied with these words:

> I believe that defensive systems, which prevent attack, are not the cause of the arms race, but constitute a factor preventing the death of people. . . . Maybe an antimissile system is more expensive than an offensive system, but it is designed not to kill people but to preserve human lives.

The Search for Real Peace

Preserving lives—no peace is more fundamental than that. Great obstacles lie ahead, but they should not deter us. Peace is God's commandment. Peace is the holy shadow cast by men treading on the path of virtue.

But just as we all know what peace *is*, we certainly know what peace is *not*.

- Peace based on repression cannot be true peace and is secure only when individuals are free to direct their own governments.
- Peace based on partition cannot be true peace. Put simply: nothing can justify the continuing and permanent division of the European Continent. Walls of partition and distrust must give way to greater communication for an open world. Before leaving for Geneva, I shall make new proposals to achieve this goal.
- Peace based on mutual fear cannot be true peace because staking our future on a precarious balance of terror is not good enough. The world needs a balance of safety.
- And, finally, a peace based on averting our eyes from trouble cannot be true peace. The consequences of conflict are every bit as tragic when the destruction is contained within one country.

Real peace is what we seek, and that is why today the United States is presenting an initiative that addresses what will be a central issue in Geneva—the issue of regional conflicts in Africa, Asia, and Central America.

Our own position is clear: as the oldest nation of the New World, as the first anticolonial power, the United States rejoiced when decolonization gave birth to so many new nations after World War II. We have always supported the right of the people of each nation to define their own destiny. We have given $300 billion since 1945 to help people of other countries. And we've tried to help friendly governments defend against aggression, subversion, and terror.

We have noted with great interest similar expressions of peaceful intent by leaders of the Soviet Union. I am not here to challenge the good faith of what they say. But isn't it important for us to weigh the record, as well?

- In Afghanistan, there are 118,000 Soviet troops prosecuting war against the Afghan people.
- In Cambodia, 140,000 Soviet-backed Vietnamese soldiers wage a war of occupation.
- In Ethiopia, 1,700 Soviet advisers are involved in military planning and support operations along with 2,500 Cuban combat troops.
- In Angola—1,200 Soviet military advisers involved in planning and supervising combat operations, along with 35,000 Cuban troops.

U.S. Delegation to the 40th UN General Assembly

Representatives
Vernon A. Walters
Herbert S. Okun
Gerald B. Solomon, U.S. Representative from the State of New York
Daniel A. Mica, U.S. Representative from the State of Florida
John Davis Lodge*

Alternate Representatives
Patricia M. Byrne
Joseph Verner Reed
Hugh Montgomery
Robinson Risner
Adele Langston Rogers

*Mr. Lodge died Oct. 29, 1985.

USUN press release 95 (rev.) of Oct. 17, 1985. ■

• In Nicaragua—some 8,000 Soviet-bloc and Cuban personnel, including about 3,500 military and secret police personnel.

All of these conflicts—some of them under way for a decade—originate in local disputes, but they share a common characteristic: they are the consequence of an ideology imposed from without, dividing nations and creating regimes that are, almost from the day they take power, at war with their own people. And in each case Marxism-Leninism's war with the people becomes war with their neighbors.

These wars are exacting a staggering human toll and threaten to spill across national boundaries and trigger dangerous confrontations. Where is it more appropriate than right here at the United Nations to call attention to Article 2 of our Charter which instructs members to refrain "... from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state. . . ."?

During the past decade these wars played a large role in building suspicions and tensions in my country over the purpose of Soviet policy. This gives us an extra reason to address them seriously today.

U.S. Proposal for a Regional Peace Process

Last year I proposed from this podium that the United States a .l Soviet Union hold discussions on some of these issues, and we have done so. But I believe these problems need more than talk. For that reason, we are proposing, and are fully committed to support, a regional peace process that seeks progress on three levels.

• First, we believe the starting point must be a process of negotiation among the warring parties in each country I've mentioned—which, in the case of Afghanistan, includes the Soviet Union. The form of these talks may and should vary, but negotiations—and an improvement of internal political conditions—are essential to achieving an end to violence, the withdrawal of foreign troops, and national reconciliation.

• There is a second level: once negotiations take hold and the parties directly involved are making real progress, representatives of the United States and the Soviet Union should sit down together. It is not for us to impose any solutions in this separate set of talks. Such solutions would not last. But the issue we should address is how best to support the ongoing talks among the warring parties. In some cases, it might well be appropriate to consider guarantees for any agreements already reached. But in every case the primary task is to promote this goal: verified elimination of the foreign military presence and restraint on the flow of outside arms.

• And, finally, if these first two steps are successful, we could move on to the third—welcoming each country back into the world economy so its citizens can share in the dynamic growth that other developing countries—countries that are at peace—enjoy. Despite past differences with these regimes, the United States would respond generously to their democratic reconciliation with their own people, their respect for human rights, and their return to the family of free nations. Of course, until such time as these negotiations result in definitive progress, America's support for struggling democratic resistance forces must not and shall not cease.

This plan is bold. It is realistic. It is not a substitute for existing peacemaking efforts; it complements them. We are not trying to solve every conflict in every region of the globe, and we recognize that each conflict has its own character. Naturally, other regional problems will require different approaches. But we believe that the recurrent pattern of conflict that we see in these five cases ought to be broken as soon as possible.

We must begin somewhere, so let us begin where there is great need and great hope. This will be a clear step forward to help people choose their future more freely. Moreover, this is an extraordinary opportunity for the Soviet side to make a contribution to regional peace which, in turn, can promote future dialogue and negotiations on other critical issues.

The Need for Individual Freedom and Human Rights

With hard work and imagination, there is no limit to what, working together, our nations can achieve. Gaining a peaceful resolution of these conflicts will open whole new vistas of peace and progress—the discovery that the promise of the future lies not in measures of military defense, or the control of weapons, but in the expansion of individual freedom and human rights.

Only when the human spirit can worship, create, and build, only when people are given a personal stake in determining their own destiny and benefiting from their own risks do societies become prosperous, progressive, dynamic, and free.

We need only open our eyes to the economic evidence all around us. Nations that deny their people opportunity—in Eastern Europe, Indochina, southern Africa, and Latin America—without exception are dropping further behind in the race for the future. But where we see enlightened leaders who understand that economic freedom and personal incentive are key to development, we see economies striding forward—Singapore, Taiwan, and South Korea; India, Botswana, and China. These are among the current and emerging success stories because they have the courage to give economic incentives a chance.

Let us all heed the simple eloquence in Andrei Sakharov's Nobel Peace Prize message:

> International trust, mutual understanding disarmament and international security are inconceivable without an open society with freedom of information, freedom of conscience, the right to publish and the right to travel and choose the country in which one wishes to live.

At the core, this is an eternal truth. Freedom works. That is the promise of the open world and awaits only our collective grasp. Forty years ago, hope came alive again for a world that hungered for hope. I believe fervently that hope is still alive.

The American Commitment to the World

The United States has spoken with candor and conviction today, but that does not lessen these strong feelings held by every American: it's in the nature of Americans to hate war and its destructiveness. We would rather wage our struggle to rebuild and renew, not to tear down. We would rather fight against hunger, disease, and catastrophe. We would rather engage our adversaries in the battle of ideals and ideas for the future.

These principles emerge from the innate openness and good character of our people—and from our long struggle and sacrifice for our liberties and the liberties of others. Americans always yearn for peace. They have a passion for life. They carry in their hearts a deep capacity for reconciliation.

Last year at this General Assembly, I indicated there was every reason for the United States and the Soviet Union to shorten the distance between us. In Geneva—the first meeting between our heads of government in more than 6 years—Mr. Gorbachev and I will have that opportunity.

So, yes, let us go to Geneva with both sides committed to dialogue. Let both sides go committed to a world with fewer nuclear weapons—and some day with none. Let both sides go committed to walk together on a safer path into the 21st century and to lay the foundation for enduring peace.

It is time, indeed, to do more than just talk of a better world. It is time to act. And we will act when nations cease to try to impose their ways upon others. And we will act when they realize that we, for whom the achievement of freedom has come dear, will do what we must to preserve it from assault.

America is committed to the world, because so much of the world is inside America. After all, only a few miles from this very room is our Statue of Liberty, past which life began anew for millions—where the peoples from nearly every country in this hall joined to build these United States.

The blood of each nation courses through the American vein and feeds the spirit that compels us to involve ourselves in the fate of this good earth. It is the same spirit that warms our heart in concern to help ease the desperate hunger that grips proud people on the African Continent.

It is the internationalist spirit that came together last month when our neighbor, Mexico, was struck suddenly by an earthquake. Even as the Mexican nation moved vigorously into action, there were heartwarming offers by other nations offering to help and glimpses of people working together without concern for national self-interest or gain.

And if there was any meaning to salvage out of that tragedy, it was found one day in a huge mound of rubble that was once the Juarez Hospital in Mexico City. A week after that terrible event and as another day of despair unfolded, a team of workers heard a faint sound coming somewhere from the heart of the crushed concrete and twisted steel. Hoping beyond hope, they quickly burrowed toward it. As the late afternoon light faded, and, racing against time, they found what they had heard, and the first of three baby girls—newborn infants—emerged to the safety of the rescue team. And let me tell you the scene through the eyes of one who was there.

> Everyone was so quiet when they lowered that little baby down in a basket covered with blankets. The baby didn't make a sound, either. But the minute they put her in the Red Cross ambulance, everybody just got up and cheered.

Well, amidst all that hopelessness and debris came a timely—and timeless—lesson for us all. We witnessed the miracle of life.

It is on this that I believe our nations can make a renewed commitment. The miracle of life is given by One greater than ourselves. But, once given, each life is ours to nurture and preserve—to foster not only for today's world but for a better one to come.

There is no purpose more noble than for us to sustain and celebrate life in a turbulent world. And that is what we must do now. We have no higher duty, no greater cause as humans. Life—and the preservation of freedom to live it in dignity—is what we are on this earth to do.

Everything we work to achieve must seek that end so that some day our prime ministers, our premiers, our presidents, and our general secretaries will talk not of war and peace but only of peace.

We've had 40 years to begin. Let us not waste one more moment to give back to the world all that we can in return for this miracle of life.

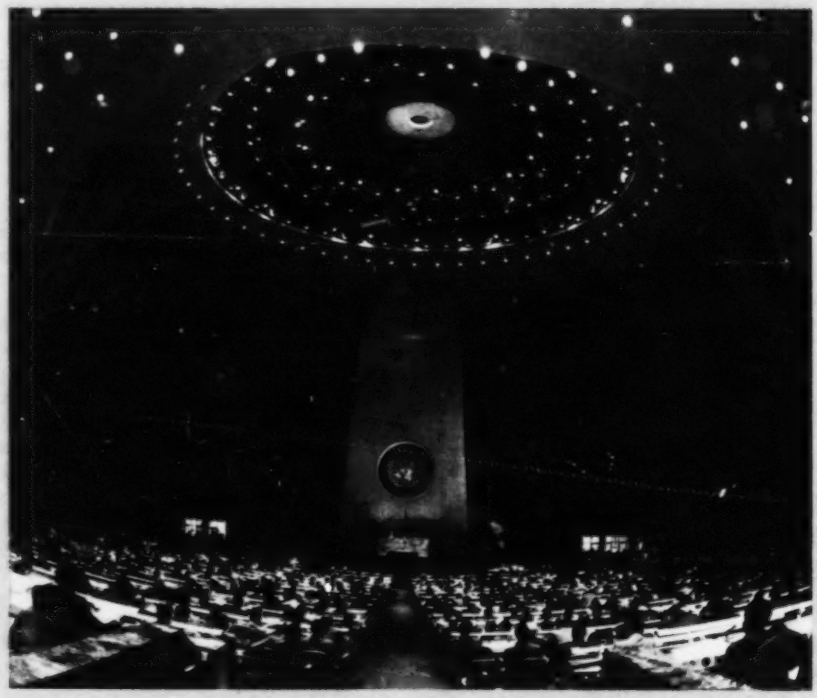
---

[1]Text from Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents of Oct. 28, 1985, and USUN press release 125. ■

United Nations Headquarters

One of the key decisions facing the first UN General Assembly was to select the location for the permanent headquarters, Many sites were considered. However, in December 1946, the American philanthropist and financier, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., offered a gift of $8.5 million to purchase land adjacent to the East River in New York City; the General Assembly quickly accepted.

The four buildings which comprise the UN headquarters are the low, domed General Assembly; the 39-story Secretariat; the rectangular Conference Building along the river; and the Dag Hammarskjold Library. Construction costs, exclusive of the library, amounted to about $67 million and were financed by an interest-free loan from the United States. The library was built at a cost of $6.7 million and was a gift of the Ford Foundation. Occupancy of the Secretariat began in 1950, but it was not until 1952 that meetings could be held in the General Assembly and Conference Buildings. The Dag Hammarskjold Library was dedicated in 1961. ■



(UN photo/Milton Grant)

The General Assembly hall is enormous—165 feet long, 115 feet wide, with a ceiling 75 feet high. There are more than 2,000 seats in the General Assembly—1,400 for delegates, alternates, and advisers and the remainder for the public and press. At the green marble podium are places for the President of the Assembly, the Secretary General, and the Under Secretary General for General Assembly Affairs. To the left and right of the podium are voting panels listing the name of each member state. A mechanized system allows delegates to vote by pressing a button at their desks, although voting is sometimes by secret ballot. Broadcast, photo, and interpreters' booths line both sides of the hall.

(UN photo/Milton Grant)

The Security Council chamber is one of three chambers in the Conference Building. It was designed by the Norwegian architect Arnstein Arneberg, and most of the furnishings are gifts from the Norwegian Government. The large mural by Per Krohg (of Norway) symbolizes the promise of future peace and individual freedom.

(UN photo/Milton Grant)

The Economic and Social Council chamber was designed by Sven Markelius of Sweden. Much of the decorative furnishings and the white marble flooring were gifts of the Government of Sweden.

(UN photo)

In the Trusteeship Council chamber, a light and harmonious effect is achieved through the use of fine woods and contrasting colors. This chamber was designed by Finn Juhl of Denmark; the Government of Denmark provided most of the furnishings.

United Nations Activities

Health

This baby, receiving an inoculation in a village in Bhutan, is the beneficiary of a worldwide campaign by the World Health Organization (WHO) to immunize by 1990 every child in the world against the six major communicable diseases—diphtheria, measles, poliomyelitis, tetanus, tuberculosis, and whooping cough. WHO helps countries expand and modernize their health facilities, and it promotes research relating to nutrition, maternal and child care, environmental safety, mental health, disease control, and medical care and rehabilitation. This UN specialized agency eradicated smallpox in 1979.

(UN photo)

(UN photo)

Food

Most of the world's 1 billion hungry people live in the developing countries, areas which do not produce enough to feed their populations. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) aims to raise levels of nutrition and standards of living; improve production and distribution of all agriculture products; promote rural development by encouraging investment and research; and, by these means, eliminate hunger. Through the efforts of FAO, new farming methods have increased food production where it is most needed. This farmer in Sri Lanka is sowing rice, a staple crop in many Third World countries.

(UN photo)

Women

Many women worldwide are locked in a lifestyle of exploitation. The voluntary fund for the UN Decade for Women, established in 1975, is attempting to improve their circumstances through training and literacy projects implemented on a village level. This UN expert is training rural women in Tunisia in clothing manufacture.

Environment

The protection of these zebras in Tanzania is only one of the special interests of the UN Environment Program (UNEP). Its other programs to protect the Earth's flora and fauna include Earthwatch (a network to monitor environmental changes), land reclamation and management, and combatting marine pollution.

(UN photo)

Disabled

The UN General Assembly proclaimed 1981 as the International Year for Disabled Persons. Its focus was to encourage national and international efforts for the rehabilitation of the estimated 450 million people in the world who suffer from some form of physical or mental impairment. This young man in Burma works in the carpentry shop of a school despite his disability.

(UN photo)

(UN photo)

Human Rights

Millions of Indians living in the isolated highlands of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru are being helped toward better living and working conditions through joint programs undertaken by their governments and UN agencies. These Indians in Colombia vote in a district gubernatorial election.

(UN photo)

Refugees

Due to severe drought in Africa, millions of people have become refugees, such as those in Ethiopia. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) was established in 1950 to protect refugees and promote durable solutions to their problems. It depends entirely on voluntary contributions from governments and private sources for its programs for the more than 10 million refugees under its care around the world. UNHCR was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1954 and 1981.

Investment

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) finances major development projects in Third World countries, such as this dam in Nigeria.

Aging

Rising life expectancy and declining birth rates throughout the world are creating an increasing proportion of old people to young. By the year 2000, there will be 600 million people over 60 years of age, twice the 1970 figure. The 1982 World Assembly on Aging asked all countries to formulate plans to help the aging as individuals and to deal with the long-term social and economic effects of an aging population. This resident of Saint Fatima House for the aged in Cairo is having her blood pressure checked by one of the Roman Catholic nuns who operate the facility.

(UN photo)

(UN photo)

(UN photo)

Population

A government worker briefs residents of a rural village in China on procedures to be followed in taking that country's first modern census (1982). It took the combined efforts of almost 13 million people (6 million trained personnel and about 7 million volunteers) to make it a success. Responses were processed by computers provided by the UN Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA). Preliminary results revealed that there are 1.08 billion people in China, nearly a quarter of the human race. The full results will take years to analyze.

(UN photo)

Aviation

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) was established in 1947 to ensure the safe and orderly growth of international civil aviation, such as adopting standards governing the performance of pilots, air traffic controllers, and ground maintenance crews and formulating rules of the air for pilots, aeronautical charts of navigation, and telecommunications systems. ICAO also provides training assistance, such as to these mechanics in Burkina Faso.

Disaster Relief

Since it began operations in 1972, the UN Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO) has coordinated the relief efforts of other UN agencies and private organizations for some 220 major natural disasters, such as this devastating earthquake which struck Guatemala in 1976, leaving about 1 million people homeless.

(UN photo)

Weather

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has implemented the World Weather Watch using surface-based observations, meteorological satellites, and a system of world and regional meteorological centers operated by national weather services. One result is that major economic development projects are getting information about the distribution and quality of the water supply. This meteorologist in Ecuador replaces a recording chart on a sunshine gauge. Data from this station is transmitted to the national meteorological center in Costa Rica.

(UN photo)

(UN photo)

Human Settlements

These young children play in an overcrowded slum area in a Central American country. This is one of the many problems confronting the UN Center for Human Settlements (Habitat). With more than 4.5 million people unevenly distributed over the world's habitable areas, the quality of their lives is, to a major extent, influenced by patterns of population growth and density. Some countries are already facing serious overpopulation, manifested in the form of food shortages, inadequate housing, and high unemployment rates.

(UN photo)

Development

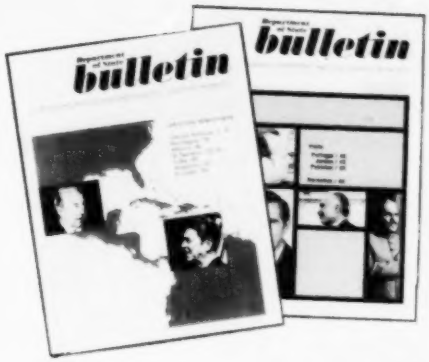
The UN Development Program (UNDP) and the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) contribute to the ever-growing industrial needs of the world. UNIDO field officers are in direct contact with the technical authorities of governments receiving assistance from UNDP in order to establish training centers like this carpentry workshop in Togo.

• U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1986-491-783:20082

Background Notes

Background Notes are concise, authoritative pamphlets describing about 170 countries and geographic entities of the world, as well as selected international organizations. They contain the most current information on each country's people, culture, geography, history, government, economy, and political conditions. *Background Notes* also include reading list, travel notes, and maps.

Approximately 60 *Background Notes* are updated and published each year. Price: $32.00 per year, domestic; $40.00, foreign.



Department of State Bulletin

This monthly magazine is an indispensable foreign policy reference tool—no library, research center, or world affairs specialist should be without it. The *Bulletin* presents the official record of U.S. foreign policy, including major addresses of the President and the Secretary, statements to the Congress; special features and analytical articles on international affairs by State Department experts; list of treaties and other agreements; and a brief chronology of world events.

Subscription to the *Department of State Bulletin* includes an annual index. Price $25.00 per year, domestic; $31.25, foreign.

Order Form for New Subscriptions

GPO prices are subject to change without notice.
(Confirm by calling 202-783-3238.)

☐ **Background Notes** (BGN)
Annual subscription of approximately 60 *Notes:*
$32.00, domestic; $40.00, foreign

☐ **Department of State Bulletin** (DSB)
Annual subscription of 12 issues plus index: $25.00, domestic; $31.25, foreign

Mail to:
Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402

Enclosed is $_____ ☐ check or ☐ money order (payable to Superintendent of Documents) or charge to my

Deposit Account No. _____ – _____ Order No. _____

Credit Card Orders Only

Total charges $_____

Credit Card No. _____ Expiration date Month/Year _____

Please Print

Company or personal name

Additional address line

Street address

City State Zip Code

(or Country)

For Office Use Only

Quantity Charges

_____ Publications _____

_____ Subscriptions _____

Special shipping charges _____

International handling _____

Special charges _____

OPNR

_____ UPNS

_____ Balance Due

_____ Discount

_____ Refund

June 1984

Published by the United States Department of State • Bureau of Public Affairs • Office of Public Communication • Editorial Division • Washington, D.C. • February 1986 • This material is reprinted from the *Department of State Bulletin* of December 1985. It is in the public domain and may be reproduced without permission; citation of this source is appreciated.

Bureau of Public Affairs
United States Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Official Business

Postage and Fees Paid
Department of State
STA-501